

Docket No. J11L07
Application No. 10/783,527

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 1-10 were previously pending. Claim 2 was objected to for informalities. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Keplinger et al. (US 5,345,531). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keplinger in view of Hulse et al. (US 6,550,952). Claims 5, 7, 8, and 10 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keplinger.

Applicant has amended claim 2 to correct the clerical error. Otherwise, the claims remain unchanged. No new matter adds through the amendments.

Claim Objections

Claim 2 was objected to for informalities.

Applicant has amended claim 2 to correct the clerical error. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Keplinger et al. (US 5,345,531).

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keplinger in view of Hulse et al. (US 6,550,952).

Claims 5, 7, 8, and 10 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keplinger.

The present invention is directed to a plastic optical fiber bundle, as recited in claim 1, the plastic optical fiber bundle comprises a plurality of plastic optical fibers, each having an inner core layer and an outer layer, wherein the outer layer of said plastic optical fiber is formed with a plurality of depressions for producing a light leak effect, the depressions do not extend into the inner core layer of said plastic optical fiber.

Keplinger clearly fails to teach or suggest such a plastic optical fiber bundle.

Examiner Renee Luebke and Examiner William Carter are sincerely thanked for the telephone interview with the undersigned on May 31, 2006. During the interview, the Keplinger

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reference was discussed, and Examiner Renee Luebke and Examiner William Carter agreed that Keplinger does not read on the independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-10. Hulse clearly cannot cure the deficiencies of Keplinger. Therefore, claims 1-10 are patentable over Keplinger and Hulse.

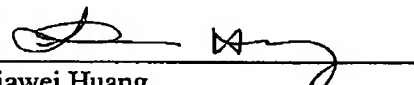
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the remaining claims 1-10 are now in condition for allowance. Allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectively submitted
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